

December 24, 1951

Dr. Robert Paul Levine
Department of Biology
Amherst College,
Amherst, Mass.

Dear Paul:

Esther and I both were very sorry you had changed your plans, and could not meet us on your trip East late last summer. The Minneapolis meetings were mildly interesting, somewhat dampened by heavy downpours. We spent most of our time outside the sessions, including a trip around the very pretty lake districts.

How are you settled in your Amherst position? As things have turned out here, the space additions did not materialize when expected last summer, and we would have been miserably crowded had you chosen to accept your fellowship here. It would have been well worth it to us, but possibly not entirely fair to yourself. The delay is not indefinite, and by 1952-53, we should be very well settled. In addition, most of my present crew is graduating (1 Ph.D., a couple of M.A.'s) and we'll have more room on that account alone. If you know of any promising seniors who want to do graduate work in genetics (including microbial) there should be a number of vacancies for teaching or research assistantships in this department.

What about your own plans for next year-- have you anything definitely lined up for part or all of it? We'd love to have you visit us, if you could take enough time to make it worth while. Next summer, however, I am hoping very seriously to take off a couple of months (probably June and July) and work somewhere else for a while. Have you preserved any warm feelings for microorganisms?

Esther and I would like to wish Elizabeth and yourself the very best for 1952.

Yours sincerely,

Joshua Lederberg